## NOTICE OF A PRE-HEARING WORKSHOP, DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING AND TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR OFFICIAL MAP ACT PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE US 74 SHELBY BYPASS AND THE COMBINED PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE US 74 IMPROVEMENTS IN MOORESBORO

TIP Project Nos. R-2707 & R-4045

**Cleveland County** 

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) will hold a Design Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 14, 2009 at Cleveland Community College, located at 137 South Post Road, Shelby.

NCDOT representatives will be available at a Pre-Hearing Open House, in the Auditorium on the campus of Cleveland Community College between the hours of 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to answer questions and receive comments relative to the proposed projects. The opportunity to submit written comments or questions will also be provided. Interested citizens may attend at any time during the above mentioned hours.

The formal public hearing for the proposed projects will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium on the campus of Cleveland Community College. The presentation will consist of an explanation of the proposed design, and right of way and relocation requirements and procedures. The hearing will be open to those present for statements, questions and/or comments. The presentation and comments will be recorded and a written transcript will be prepared.

Anyone wishing to speak at the formal hearing may register to do so at the pre-hearing workshop, immediately prior to the formal hearing or by calling Mr. Jamille Robbins at (919) 431-6500. Speakers will be called in the order they registered. A five-minute time limit will be imposed for speaking in order to allow a fair opportunity for all those wishing to do so. Additional spoken comments will be received after those who registered have finished their comments.

Under TIP Project No. R-2707, NCDOT proposes to construct an 18.6-mile controlled-access freeway on new location to bypass Shelby. Bypass Alternative 21 was chosen as the preferred alternative based on public comments received at the Corridor Public Hearing (January 26, 1999), comments made upon review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), and agency coordination. The purpose of the project is to improve the traffic carrying capacity of the US 74 Corridor, thereby reducing the potential for future traffic congestion and improving safety.

Under TIP Project No. R-4045, NCDOT proposes to upgrade US 74 to full control of access from Mooresboro to the proposed Shelby Bypass (TIP No. R-2707). The project also proposes to replace the atgrade intersection of US 74 and US 74 Business (Elenboro Road) with an interchange. Full control of access means that preference is given to through traffic by providing access to a highway only at interchanges. There will be no intersecting roads or direct private driveway connections to US 74.

The public hearing will also serve as a Transportation Corridor Official Map Act Public Hearing for the US 74 Shelby Bypass in Cleveland County. Under this General Statute, building permits will be restricted within the protected corridor. The law does not allow building permits to be issued within the boundaries of the corridor for a period of three years after the application for the building permit is submitted.

Maps displaying the location and design of the projects and copies of the environmental documents, the <u>Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and the Federal Record of Decision (ROD)</u> for TIP No. R-2707, and the <u>Environmental Assessment (EA)</u> for TIP No. R-4045, are available for public review at the City of Shelby – City Manager's Office located at 300 S. Washington Street, Shelby, 28151 and at the NCDOT Division Engineer's Office - Highway Division 12 located at 1710 E. Marion Street (US 74 Business), Shelby, 28151. The maps are also available online at:

http://www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/highway/roadway/hearingmaps by county/

Anyone desiring additional information may contact Mr. Jamille Robbins, Human Environment Unit, at 1598 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1598, phone (919) 431-6500, or email <u>jarobbins@ncdot.gov</u>. Additional written comments may be submitted to Mr. Robbins until May 14, 2009.

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who wish to participate in this hearing. Anyone requiring special services should contact Mr. Robbins as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.